

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A control system for an internal combustion engine having a plurality of cylinders and a switching mechanism for switching between an all-cylinder operation in which all of the plurality of cylinders are operated and a partial-cylinder operation in which at least one of the plurality of cylinders is halted. A condition for performing the partial-cylinder operation is determined, based on the detected operating parameters of the vehicle driven by the engine. A result of the determination is modified so that the partial-cylinder operation may be continued, when the detected operating parameters satisfy a predetermined continuation condition within a predetermined time period from the time a vehicle operating state where the condition for performing the partial-cylinder operation is satisfied, has changed to another vehicle operating state where the condition for performing the partial-cylinder operation is not satisfied.